AVENGERS vs X-MEN

MARVEL

VS

ROUND 2

AARON
ROMITA
HANNA
MARTIN

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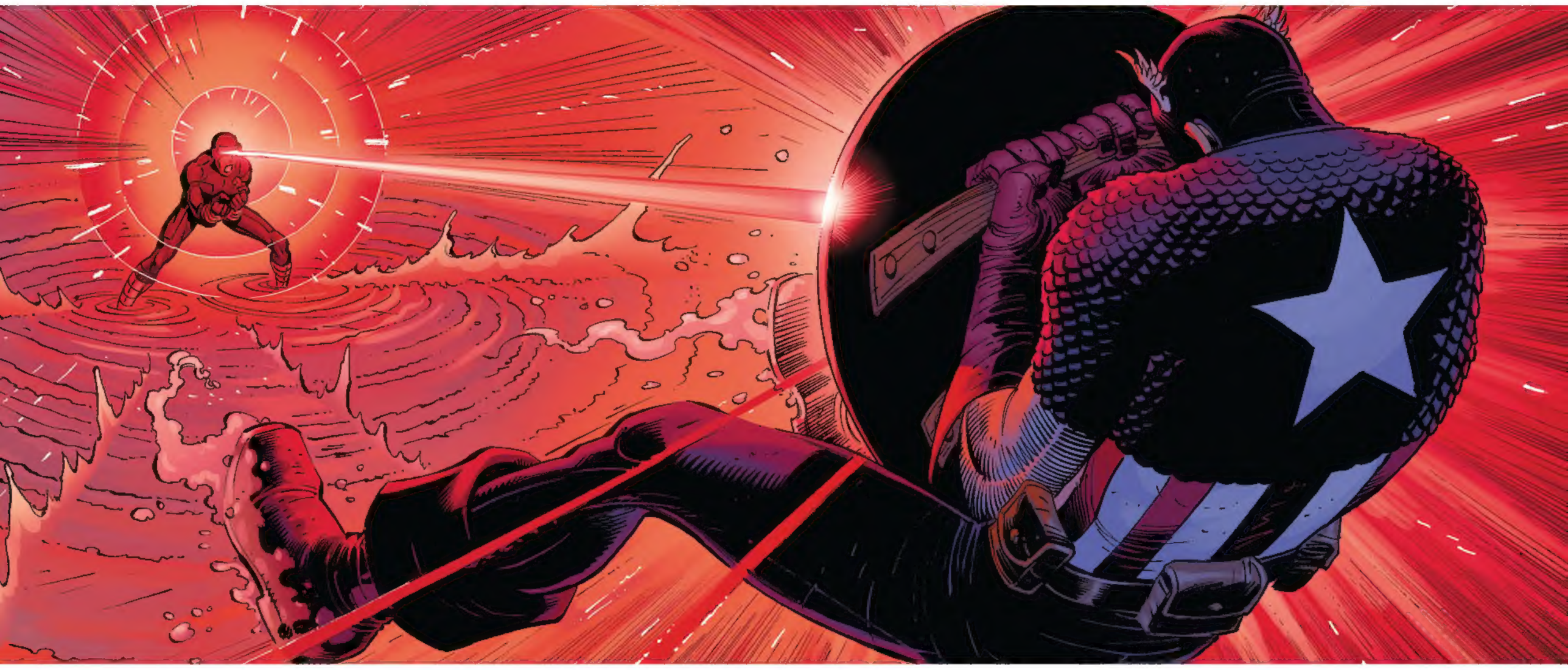
AVX VS

ROUND 2

THE PHOENIX FORCE IS RETURNING TO EARTH. IT IS A DESTRUCTIVE ENTITY OF COSMIC PROPORTIONS, SEEKING A HOST TO CHANNEL ITS POWER.

THE X-MEN BELIEVE IT WILL BRING ABOUT THE REBIRTH OF THE ENDANGERED MUTANT RACE. THE AVENGERS BELIEVE IT WILL DESTROY ALL LIFE ON THE PLANET. BOTH SIDES BELIEVE THAT HOPE SUMMERS, THE MUTANT MESSIAH, IS THE PHOENIX'S CHOSEN VESSEL.

THE AVENGERS HAVE COME TO THE X-MEN'S ISLAND HOME OF UTOPIA TO TAKE HOPE INTO CUSTODY. THE X-MEN ARE DETERMINED TO STOP THEM -- AT ANY COST.



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AVENGERS

CAPTAIN AMERICA

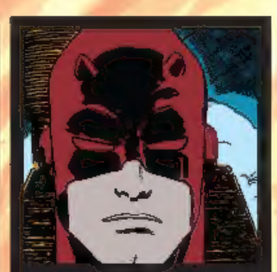
IRON MAN

DOCTOR STRANGE

SPIDER-MAN

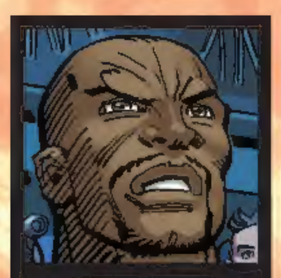
IRON FIST

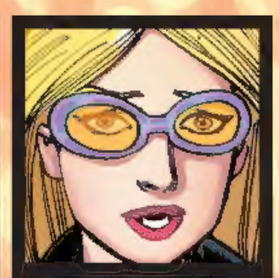
THE THING


DAREDEVIL

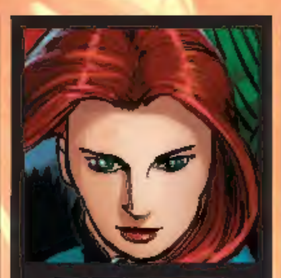
GIANT-MAN

HAWKEYE


LUKE CAGE


MOCKINGBIRD

RED HULK

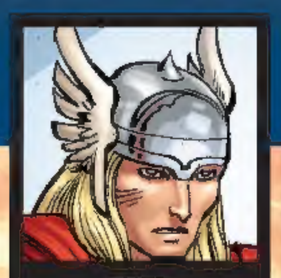

BLACK WIDOW

SPIDER-WOMAN

BLACK PANTHER

QUICKSILVER

OUTER SPACE AWAY MISSION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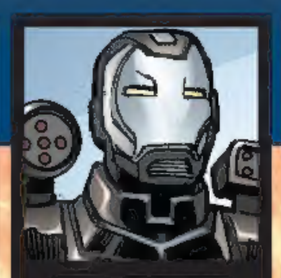
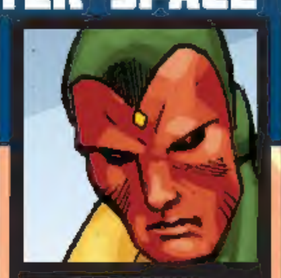
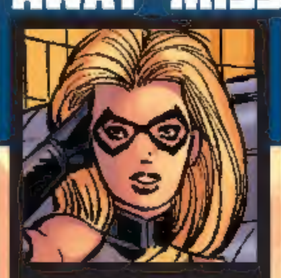
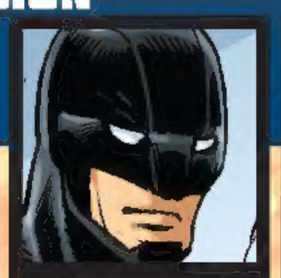

WAR MACHINE

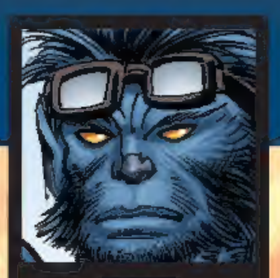
VALKYRIE


THE VISION

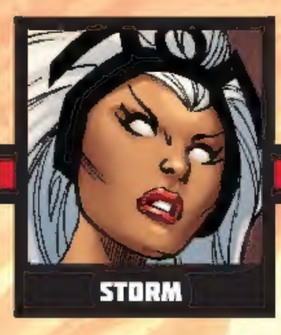

MS. MARVEL

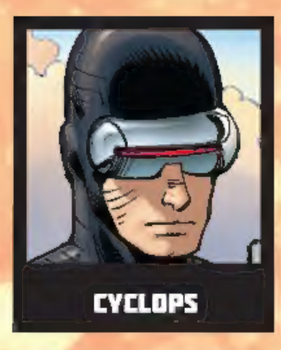

PROTECTOR

CAPTAIN BRITAIN

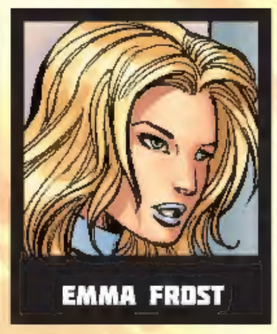

BEAST

WOLVERINE

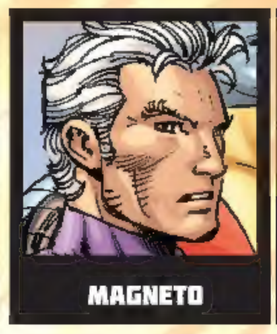

STORM


CYCLOPS

NAMOR


EMMA FROST

COLOSSUS

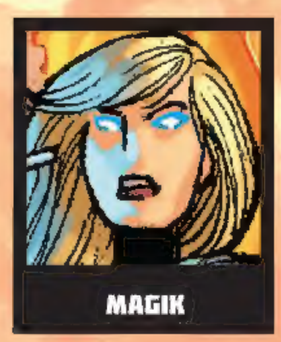

MAGNETO

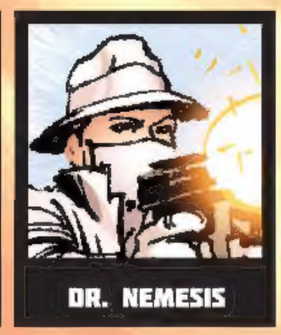
DOMINO

WARPATH

MAGMA

MADISON JEFFRIES


MAGIK

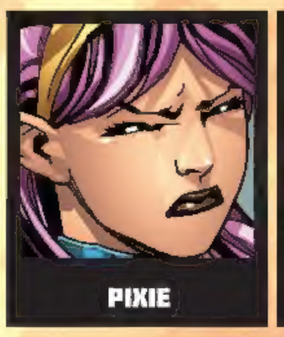

DR. NEMESIS

SUNSPOT

DAZZLER

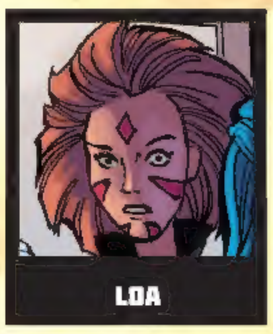
PSYLOCKE

HOPE

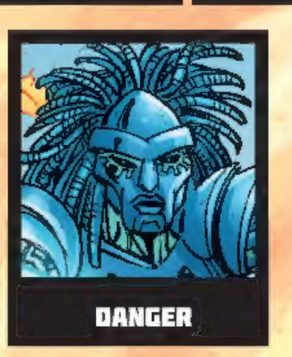

PIXIE

VELOCIDAD

TRANSONIC


LOA

SURGE


DANGER

X-MEN

UTOPIA.
OFF THE COAST OF SAN FRANCISCO.
ISLAND HOME OF THE X-MEN.

S.H.I.E.L.D. HELICARRIER.
MOBILE SUPER FORTRESS. BASE OF OPERATIONS FOR THE AVENGERS.

2:38 PM ON A TUESDAY. THE LAST MOMENT BEFORE ALL HELL BREAKS LOOSE.

SCOTT...WHAT HAVE YOU DONE?

WHAT HAVE *I* DONE? *THEY* CAME AFTER US, ORORO. JUST LOOK AT *THAT.* YOU THINK THEY DIDN'T COME HERE LOOKING FOR A FIGHT?

THESE ARE THE ***AVENGERS*** WE'RE TALKING ABOUT. LET ME TALK TO THEM.

THE TIME FOR TALK HAS PASSED.

YOU MUST CHOOSE YOUR NEXT ACTION CAREFULLY, SCOTT. ARE YOU SURE THIS IS THE FIGHT WE WANT?

UGLY STEPCHILDREN. THAT'S ALL WE'VE ***EVER*** BEEN TO THEM. AS SOON AS WE GET A MESSIAH OF OUR OWN, THEY WANT TO SWOOP IN AND TAKE HER AWAY. THAT'S HOW IT STARTS. IT ENDS WITH OUR ***EXTINCTION.***

GOD HELP US.

PROTECT HOPE. AT ALL COSTS.

WOW. ***AVENGERS VS. X-MEN.*** SO THIS IS REALLY HAPPENING.

THERE ARE ***CHILDREN*** INSIDE THAT BUILDING. WHAT IN THE WORLD IS SUMMERS THINKING?

HE'S PLAYING US. HE WANTS US TO LOOK LIKE THE BULLIES HERE.

HOW COME NOBODY TOLD ME CYCLOPS WAS THIS DAMN CRAZY?

I'VE BEEN TELLING ANYBODY WHO'D LISTEN. WE NEED TO GET DOWN THERE. NOW.

OH, MAN...

INCOMING!

MAGNETIC FASTBALL SPECIAL.

ALL HELL...

...OFFICIALLY BROKEN LOOSE.

WHOOOM

HE'S GONNA CRASH THE HELICARRIER. I KNEW IT. THESE THINGS *ALWAYS* CRASH.

YOU SHOULD NOT HAVE COME HERE.

THOOOM

SO YOU'RE THE STRONGEST ONE THERE IS ON *UTOPIA*, HUH?

WELL I'M THE STRONGEST ONE THERE *IS.*

PERIOD.

IRRADIATED MUSCLES STRAIN. ORGANIC METAL GROANS. WINDOWS SHATTER MILES AWAY. THE SAN ANDREAS FAULT SHUDDERS WITH EACH BLOW.

AVENGERS. YOUR ACTIONS HERE TODAY ARE DECIDEDLY RECKLESS AND FOOLHARDY.

AND THIS COMING FROM SOMEONE WHO HAS BEEN CALLED SUCH THINGS HIS *ENTIRE LIFE.*

KNOW THAT AS I RENDER YOU UNCONSCIOUS, I DO SO WITH A HEAVY HEART.

SOME OF YOU, AT LEAST.

HAND THAT HAS TOUCHED THE FLOOR OF THE MARIANAS TRENCH MEETS A JAW MADE OF LIVING STONE.

THEY HEAR THE PUNCH ALL THE WAY IN OAKLAND. POINT MADE.

AND COUNTERED.

KRAK

HEAVY HEART, HUH?

WISH I COULD SAY THE SAME..."YOUR HIGHNESS."

THE LORD OF ATLANTIS VERSUS A MAN FROM HARLEM WITH INDESTRUCTIBLE SKIN.

EITHER WOULD SOONER DIE THAN YIELD. TODAY BOTH WILL BLEED.

EMMA, MAINTAIN TELEPATHIC LINKS. IS HOPE SAFE?

YOU TELL ME, SCOTT. WHAT THE HELL IS HAPPENING?

SOMETHING I ALWAYS KNEW WAS INEVITABLE. STORM, TAKE DOWN THOSE JETS BEFORE THEY--

WHACK

INDESTRUCTABLE SHIELD MEETS MUTANT SKULL. THE FIRST OF THE DAY'S CONCUSSIONS.

TAKE THE BEACH.

DRIVE THEM BACK INTO THE SEA.

HOLY CRAP, I DON'T BELIEVE IT. WE'RE FIGHTING THE AVENGERS!

DAMN, *LOOK* AT ALL OF 'EM. IS THERE ANYBODY WHO'S *NOT* AN AVENGER THESE DAYS?

DOES THIS MEAN CLASS IS CANCELED?

DOES THIS MEAN WE'RE UNDER ARREST?

WHAT THE HELL ARE THEY EVEN *DOING* HERE?

NO! *LET ME GO!*

THIS IS ALL BECAUSE OF *ME!* I SHOULD BE OUT THERE!

IF IT'S ANY CONSOLATION, I'D FEEL THE EXACT SAME WAY IN YOUR SHOES. BUT I STILL CAN'T LET YOU GO, HOPE.

KEEP HER HERE. NO MATTER WHAT SHE SAYS.

AND ALL OF YOU, *STAY INSIDE.* OR THE AVENGERS WILL BE THE *LEAST* OF YOUR WORRIES.

SCOTT! THE AVENGERS' TELEPATHIC DEFENSES SHOULD TAKE ME ALL OF 30 SECONDS TO DEMOLISH. AND THAT'S IF I PAUSE IN THE MIDDLE FOR A NAP.

PULL BACK. I'M GOING TO REACH INTO THEIR MINDS AND END THIS.

AAAARRGH!

I BET YOU THOUGHT YOU WERE JUST ABOUT TO END THIS.

MICROSCOPIC TELEPATHIC TASERS. YOU JUST BREATHED IN ROUGHLY 17,000 OF THEM. THE HARDER YOU THINK, THE MORE THEY SHOCK YOU.

SO SORRY, EMMA, MY SWEET. I DO HOPE YOU'LL LET ME MAKE THIS UP TO YOU OVER DINNER SOMETIME.

NOT FOR ALL THE CAVIAR IN THE WORLD, TONY DEAR.

ORGANIC DIAMOND MEETS MULTI-BILLION DOLLAR ARMOR. THE MOST EXPENSIVE PUNCH IN HISTORY.

THEN I'LL SETTLE FOR YOU TELLING YOUR BOYFRIEND TO STOP BEING SUCH A DANGEROUS LUNATIC. WE'RE NOT HERE TO ARREST THE GIRL OR ANYONE ELSE. WE'RE HERE TO **HELP**.

THEN LEARN THE GIRL'S NAME. IT'S ***HOPE***. AND WE DON'T REMEMBER ASKING FOR YOUR HELP.

WARNING: EXTREME MAGNETIC FIELD DETECTED IMPLEMENTING ANTI-MAGNETISM SAFEGUARDS

OH, FOR THE LOVE OF...WHAT NOW?

OH. RIGHT.

THAT.

HI THERE.

MAN IN A METAL SUIT VERSUS THE MUTANT MASTER OF MAGNETISM.

IF YOU THINK THIS IS NO CONTEST, YOU'VE NEVER MET TONY STARK.

ELSEWHERE.

...LIVE FOOTAGE NOW FROM A TRAFFIC COPTER IN SAN FRANCISCO WHERE THERE APPEARS TO BE AN EPIC BATTLE TAKING PLACE...

LIVE

CCN

AVENGERS, X-MEN ENGAGED IN FREE-FOR-ALL MELEE

WE SHOULD BE THERE.

THIS IS *OUR* FIGHT. WE HAVE TO GO. I *AM* GOING.

PLEASE...

COME WITH ME.

347 MILES AND 3.7 SECONDS LATER...

FAMILY REUNION AT MACH 5.

HELLO, FATHER. UP TO YOUR OLD TRICKS, I SEE.

PIETRO.

ONCE A FOOLISH BOY, ALWAYS A FOOLISH BOY.

AT LEAST TELL ME YOU HAVEN'T DRAGGED YOUR SISTER INTO THIS?

AND NOW IT APPEARS THAT THE AVENGER QUICKSILVER, SON OF MAGNETO, HAS JOINED THE FIGHT. THIS IS GETTING UGLIER BY THE MINUTE. WE CAN ONLY SPECULATE AS TO THE CAUSE OF THIS TERRIBLE--

LIVE

CLICK

Wanda's Dream Journal

This is how the world ends.

EVEN IN A WAR WHERE HERO BATTLES HERO, SOME FIGHTS PROVE FAR MORE PERSONAL THAN OTHERS.

OH MY GOD. NEVER THOUGHT I'D SEE THE DAY...

WHEN *WOLVERINE* WOULD STAND AGAINST HIS OWN DAMN PEOPLE.

MAYBE IF Y'ALL PULLED YOUR HEADS OUTTA CYCLOPS' ASS ONCE IN A WHILE YOU'D SEE, ALL I'M DOING IS TRYING TO SAVE THE DAMN WORLD.

WHERE'S HOPE?

THE FIERCEST X-MAN WHO HAS EVER LIVED VERSUS AN ISLAND OF PEOPLE HE ONCE CALLED FAMILY. YET ANOTHER DARK DAY FOR A MAN WHO HAS KNOWN FAR TOO MANY.

GO TO HELL, *TRAITOR!*

THUNDER RUMBLES. WITHOUT A CLOUD IN THE SKY.

GUTS TIGHTEN IN THE BELLY OF THE KING OF WAKANDA.

YOU SHOULD'VE TOLD ME THIS WAS HAPPENING.

YOU SHOULD'VE TOLD ME YOU WERE HARBORING A SIXTEEN-YEAR-OLD GIRL WITH THE POWER TO BLOW UP PLANETS.

T'CHALLA. WE HAVE TO END THIS.

THERE'S ONLY *ONE* WAY TO END THIS, MY LOVE.

HIS WIFE IS STILL WORSHIPED AS A GOD, ALL ALONG THE SERENGETI.

YOU STUBBORN, PIGHEADED MAN.

THIS IS EXACTLY WHY WE HAVE A *MARRIAGE COUNSELOR!*

MARITAL DISCORD. WITH HAIL AND LIGHTING AND HURRICANE-FORCE WINDS.

I HAVE TO GET OUT THERE. I HAVE TO *STOP* THIS.

SORRY, HOPE. YOU HEARD MS. FROST.

THOSE ARE THE AVENGERS OUT THERE. BEST TO LET THE *BIG GUNS* HANDLE THIS ONE.

YOU'RE RIGHT, LAURIE. SORRY ABOUT YOUR NOSE, BY THE WAY.

SAY WHA--

GAHH

FOURTH NOSE BROKEN IN THE LAST EIGHT MINUTES.

WHACK

DON'T YOU *GET* IT? THE AVENGERS ARE GOING TO WAR WITH THE X-MEN, ALL BECAUSE OF *ME.* THAT TELLS ME ONE THING...

I MUST BE THE BIGGEST DAMN GUN THERE IS.

I'VE KNOWN YOU A LONG TIME, SCOTT...

I'VE NEVER SEEN YOU BE THIS *FOOLISH* BEFORE.

AND I'VE NEVER KNOWN CAPTAIN AMERICA TO FIGHT ON THE SIDE OF *FASCISM.*

YOU CHOSE THIS FIGHT, KID. NOT ME.

RIGHT. YOU JUST SHOWED UP ON MY DOORSTEP WITH A FLOATING AIRCRAFT CARRIER AND TWO DOZEN AVENGERS.

I WOULDN'T BE HERE IF THE SITUATION WASN'T GRAVE. YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO PUT YOUR PRIDE ASIDE LONG ENOUGH TO SEE THAT.

MUTANT OR NOT, WE'RE ALL IN DANGER HERE. THIS IS THE *PHOENIX* WE'RE TALKING ABOUT, SCOTT.

THINK ABOUT *JEAN.* REMEMBER WHAT THAT THING DID TO HER.

I DON'T NEED YOU OR ANYONE ELSE TO REMIND ME OF MY *DEAD WIFE!*

OR OF THE POWER OF THE *PHOENIX!* WHICH YOU APPARENTLY KNOW EVEN *LESS* ABOUT THAN YOU DO ABOUT ME AND MY PEOPLE!

IF YOU *REALLY* WANTED TO TALK THIS OUT, YOU WOULD'VE COME TO ME *FIRST...*

GAH!

INSTEAD OF CONSULTING WITH THE *LUNATIC FRINGE.*

WHAT YOU'RE DOING HERE TODAY IS ENDANGERING THE WHOLE *WORLD*, YOUR PEOPLE *INCLUDED*. THAT'S ALL I NEED TO KNOW.

END THIS BEFORE SOMEONE GETS *HURT*.

TOO LATE FOR THAT.

THWACK

I SUPPOSE YOU'RE RIGHT.

FROM A DISTANCE, IT ALL SOUNDS LIKE A ROAR.

THE BONES GRINDING. KNUCKLES CRACKING.

FISTS CHURNING THE SEA.

BLOODY WAVES POUNDING THE SHORE.

THE HOWLS AND CURSES AND BATTLE CRIES.

THE BONDS FOREVER BROKEN.

THE FINAL FRUITLESS PLEAS FOR PEACE.

I NEVER WANTED THIS, SCOTT. AND NEITHER SHOULD YOU. TELL YOUR PEOPLE TO STAND DOWN.

THINK OF HOPE. DON'T MAKE US TAKE HER BY FORCE.

MAGIK! BACKDOOR!

UNDERSTOOD.

STEPHEN...

I HAVE HER.

SUDDENLY, SULFUR AND BILE AND PUTRID ROTTING MEAT.

YOU'RE A TALENTED GIRL, ILLYANA, BUT DID YOU REALLY THINK YOU COULD SNEAK YOUR FRIENDS OUT THROUGH *LIMBO* WITHOUT MY NOTICING?

OH, I WAS *HOPING* YOU WOULD NOTICE, DR. STRANGE...

THE SMELL OF BURNING SOULS.

I JUST WASN'T SURE YOU WERE ACTUALLY *DUMB* ENOUGH TO COME HERE!

ISLAND DEFENSES ARE FAILING. TONY STARK APPEARS TO HAVE HACKED OUR SYSTEM. UTOPIA WILL FALL. IT IS ONLY A MATTER OF--

NO! WE HAVE TO HOLD THEM BACK! JUST LONG ENOUGH TO GET HOPE OUT OF HERE! WE HAVE TO...

CYCLOPS?

DAMMIT. WHERE'D HE GO?

"WHERE'S *WOLVERINE?*"

HEY, *I'VE* GOT A GREAT IDEA...

WHY DON'T WE SNEAK AROUND IN A STINKY OLD DRAIN PIPE? I HAVEN'T DONE SOMETHING LIKE THAT SINCE, OH I DON'T KNOW, LAST TUESDAY.

DIDN'T ASK YOU TO COME WITH ME, DID I?

NO, MUST'VE SLIPPED YOUR MIND.

I JUST FIGURED SOMEBODY BETTER COME ALONG WHO'S, LET'S SAY, A BIT LESS *STABBY.*

I'M SORRY. I DON'T WANT TO HURT ANYONE.

UGGHH... BIT LATE FOR THAT.

YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND...

THE CLOSER IT GETS, THE MORE I FEEL IT.

THE MORE THE POWER GROWS INSIDE ME.

WHOA. IS SHE, UH, SUPPOSED TO BE ON *FIRE* LIKE THAT?

HEY, NO, WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

OUTTA THE WAY.

SNIKT

WHAT HAS TO BE DONE.

YES...

UGHK

EVERYTHING BURNING, INSIDE AND OUT.

TASTE THE KISS OF THE PHOENIX.

AS AM I.

CRASH

WHERE IS SHE?

HOPE?!

ALL QUIET NOW.

UHHHH...

EXCEPT FOR THE SIZZLE OF FIERY FOOTSTEPS IN SEAWATER.

THE SOUNDS OF A YOUNG GIRL RUNNING.

OF A PHOENIX RISING.

DEEP SPACE.

HERE IT COMES, AVENGERS.

MY SENSORS ARE SHORTING OUT. ITS POWER DEFIES MEASUREMENT.

IT'S HEADED RIGHT FOR US.

NO WAY CAN WE STOP THAT.

IF WE FAIL, WHOLE WORLDS WILL PERISH. BEGINNING WITH OUR OWN.

MOTHER OF GOD, JUST LOOK AT IT...

STAND FAST, MY FRIENDS...

TODAY IS AS GOOD A DAY AS ANY TO DIE.

3:45 PM ON A TUESDAY. THE MOMENT ALL HOPE WAS OFFICIALLY LOST.

TO BE CONTINUED IN TWO WEEKS...!